



YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF SOUTH AFRICA (UFASIMBA)

SOCIALISM IN OUR LIFETIME



THE WORKING CLASS HAS SPOKEN

STATEMENT OF THE YCLSA ON THE OUTCOMES OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE LEFT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, 1 June 2026

The Young Communist League of South Africa (YCLSA-Ufasimba) expresses its appreciation to the South African Communist Party (SACP) for convening the Conference of the Left, held at the Birchwood Hotel from 29 to 31 May 2026. The YCLSA regards the conference as a timely and significant intervention in the current political and socio-economic context, particularly in the face of rising unemployment, persistent inequality, the escalating cost-of-living crisis, and growing pressure on public services. The conference has created an important platform for progressive dialogue, strategic coordination, and a renewed commitment to the interests of the working class and poor majority.

The YCLSA welcomes the Declaration adopted by the conference and notes its emphasis on practical cooperation among progressive formations. The league further welcomes the conference's focus on key national priorities, including employment creation, local industrialisation, access to education, expanded social protection, healthcare reform, and resistance to the deepening of austerity and the liberalisation of the state. We remain deeply concerned by the continued marginalisation of young people in the economy, as well as the barriers faced by working-class students and unemployed graduates. In this regard, the league supports decisive measures to address youth unemployment, remove financial barriers in higher education, and expand access to quality public services.

The league also reiterates its support for the progressive implementation and defence of National Health Insurance, the advancement of genuinely accessible public education, and the strengthening of social protection measures, including a permanent Universal Basic Income Grant. These must not be approached as isolated policy questions, but as part of a broader commitment to social justice, inclusion, and democratic development.



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STATEMENT CONTINUES

The establishment of the Council of the Left is welcomed as one of the most important organisational outcomes of the conference. The YCLSA believes the Council can serve as a valuable coordinating mechanism, provided that it remains rooted in practical work, accountability, and sustained engagement with communities, workers, students, women, and young people across the country.

The YCLSA therefore commits itself to participating actively and constructively in the work of the Council of the Left, and to ensuring that its strategic priorities are linked to the lived realities of young people in communities, campuses, and workplaces.

The league calls on progressive formations to build on the momentum of the conference through principled unity, disciplined organisation, and programme-based action in pursuit of a more equal, democratic, and socially just South Africa.



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Office of the National Secretary

Young Communist League of South Africa (YCLSA-Ufasimba)

National Secretary

Mzwandile Thakhudi

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

National Spokesperson

Ramatolo Tlotleng

Cell

074 478 4403

Media Liaison Officer

Dineo Mokoena

Cell

073 969 8532